How Do I Get Close To God?

Greg Kline · 2 Chronicles 33:1–16 · Series: **Evangelism**

INTRODUCTION

- What we have here is one of the most wicked kings that Israel had.
- You see an evil man who also took down the nation that he ruled.
- They don't know the answer to the question or don't care about how do I get close to God.

1 You Are Never Too Far Gone

2 Chronicles 33:1–13; Acts 22:6–10; 1 Timothy 2:3–5

- Despite his wickedness, despite his cruelty, and in fact his murder of his very sons, he was not too far gone for God.
- There is no evil, there is no wickedness, there is no past problem that you cannot be pulled up from.
- How can I be close to God? It's recognize that God wants to be close to you.
- God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- It doesn't matter if you've lived 50 years in unfaithfulness, if you turn to God, he seeks you.

2 We Should Listen

2 Chronicles 33:10–11

- The second point of getting closer to him is we should listen.
- Because the Lord spoke to them and they did not listen. If you ignore the word of God, if you ignore God, it doesn't matter how much he wants you to be saved.
- It doesn't matter how much someone warns you. It matters, do you listen to the warning?
- You can't go wrong with God. If God says it, do it.
- It's a consistent pattern of respect, of submission. And that's what God expects. If we want to be close to him, we should listen to him.

3 We Should Actually Turn to Him

2 Chronicles 33:12–13; James 4:4–10

- Another point in getting close to God this morning is consider that we should actually turn to him.
- He entreated the favor of the Lord his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers.
- He prayed to Him, and God was moved by His entreaty and heard His plea.
- God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Submit yourselves, therefore to God.
- Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.
- If we seek that God and we approach him as the holy, the exalted God, who we claim he is, then our submission and our humility will come naturally.

4 If You Are Close to God, It Will Show

2 Chronicles 33:13–20

- And so one final point this morning is recognize. If you are close to God, it will show.
- He took away the foreign gods and the idol from the house of the Lord.
- He changed. He found God and he lived it.
- He also restored the altar of the Lord and offered on it sacrifices of peace offerings and of thanksgiving.
- God desires that all men be saved, not just the ones who come to church on Sunday.
- If I'm guided by his words, I will turn to him, and if I am with God, it will show.

THE CHALLENGE

Are you seeking to find God? Because the best way to get close to God is to allow Him to draw near to you by drawing near to Him. Listen to His words. Treasure them. Exemplify them. Love the one living God.

MY NOTES